

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Claims 3-18, 21-23 and 25-47 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. The following is the status of the claims of the above-captioned application, as amended.

Claim 1. (Original) A TY145 like subtilase which is at least 63% homologous to the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1, comprising the overall subtilisin fold and the following structural characteristics:

- a) a twisted beta-sheet with 7 strands,
- b) six alpha helices,
- c) at least three ion-binding sites,

wherein the Strong ion-binding site of the BPN' like subtilases is not present, and with the exception of the TY145 subtilase, the S39 subtilase from TA39, the S41 subtilase from TA41, and sphericase from *B. sphaericus*.

Claim 2. (Original) The subtilase of claim 1, wherein the positions of said three ion-binding sites in the three-dimensional structure of the subtilase is defined by the distance to the c-alpha atoms of the three active site amino acid residues of the subtilases, that is Ser, His and Asp, and the c-alpha atom of the amino acid residue next to the active site Ser residue (next to Ser), wherein said distances between:

- a) the Weak ion-binding site and i) Asp c-alpha atom is 17.50-19.50 Å, ii) His c-alpha atom is 21-23 Å, iii) Ser c-alpha atom is 13.80-15.80 Å, iv) next to Ser c-alpha atom is 15.80-17.80 Å,
- b) the Far ion-binding site and i) Asp c-alpha atom is 28.70-30.70 Å, ii) His c-alpha atom is 28-30 Å, iii) Ser c-alpha atom is 20-22 Å, iv) next to Ser c-alpha atom is 19.50-21.50 Å,
- c) the Near ion-binding site and i) Asp c-alpha atom is 27-29 Å, ii) His c-alpha atom is 29.50-31.50 Å, iii) Ser c-alpha atom is 21.40-23.40 Å, iv) next to Ser c-alpha atom is 22.50-24.50 Å.

Claims 3-18 (Canceled)

Claim 19. (Original) A TY145 like subtilase variant comprising one or more alterations in one or more of the positions contained in the following highly mobile regions:

84, 85, 86, 87 and 88,
108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116 and 117,
141, 142, 143, 144, 145 and 146,
150, 151 and 152,

169, 170 and 171,
200 and 201,
211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219 and 220,
242 and 243,
268, 269 and 270.

Claim 20. (Original) A TY145 like subtilase variant comprising one or more alterations in one or more of the positions contained in the following mobile regions:

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7,
17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22 and 23,
38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49 and 50,
57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68 and 69,
84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91 and 92,
107, 108, 109 and 110,
239, 240, 241, 242 and 243
265 and 266,

wherein said alterations preferably are introduced in one or both of the regions 57-69 and 84-92.

Claims 21-23 (Canceled)

Claim 24. (Original) A TY145 like subtilase variant comprising an alteration in one or more of the positions contained in the following regions:

16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21 and 22,
40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65,
66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72 and 73,
118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130 and 131,
140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158,
159, 160 and 161,
275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293 and 294,

wherein such alterations preferably are made in one or both the regions 40-73 and 140-161, preferably in the sub-regions 65-73 and 140-150.

Claims 25-47 (Canceled)